

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 01244 281556Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 SS-15

DHA-02 ORM-02 PRS-01 VO-03 SCA-01 NSC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SY-05 FBIE-00 INSE-00 EA-07

DPW-01 /062 W

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O R 281521Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9179

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

S E C R E T MOSCOW 1244

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, VN, UR, CVIS

SUBJ: POLITICAL ASYLUM REQUEST BY DINH THONG, NORTH VIETNAMESE
CORRESPONDENT

REF: MOSCOW 1191

1. CANADIAN EMBASSY MOSCOW HAS INFORMED US OF PREVIOUS CONTACT WITH BUI BA BINH, CITED REFTEL AS FRIEND OF DINH THONG. CANADIAN EMBASSY CONTACT PASSED ON ITS TELEGRAPHIC CORESPONDENCE WITH MFA OTTAWA REGARDING THIS MATTER (COPY BEING POUCHED TO EUR/SOV).

2. MR. BUI BA BINH HAD MADE REPRESENTATION IN JANUARY TO THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN MOSCOW REGARDING POLITICAL ASYLUM IN US OR CANADA FOR DINH THONG. BINH STATED TO CANADIAN EMBOFF THAT THONG WOULD IN ALL PROBABILITY BE RETURNED TO HANOI WITHIN TWO WEEKS, OR BEFORE FEBRUARY 3 OR 4.

3. OTTAWA MFA RESPONSE STATED THAT BINH IS REGARDED BY CANADIANS AS A DEDICATED COMMUNIST LOYAL TO HANOI REGIME. HIS APPROACH APPEARED PUZZLING AND OUT OF CHARACTER TO MFA.

4. IT WAS, HOWEVER, THE IMPRESSION OF AMERICAN CONSOFF THAT DINH
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 01244 281556Z

THONG EXPECTED HIS FRIEND BUI BA BINH, ALSO TO ATTEMPT TO

REQUEST ASYLUM IN WEST AT SOME FUTURE DATE.

5. DINH THONG SEEMED TO BE HONESTLY INTENT ON LEAVING THE USSR IMMEDIATELY FOR US, AND FELT THAT HIS VERY LIFE IS IN DANGER AS LONG AS HE REMAINS IN USSR OR NORHT VIETNAM, DUE TO HIS DECISION TO CONTACT US EMBASSY MOSCOW. DINH THONG SEEMED UNAWARE OF COMPLEXITIES INVOLVED IN OBTAINING SOVIET EXIT PERMISSION TO WEST, BUT HAVING APPARENTLY NEVER TRAVELED IN WEST, MAY NEVER HAVE HAD ANY REASON TO KNOW.
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NNN

Message Attributes

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